

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT



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ANIMATED VIDEO AND ONLINE GAME ABOUT MICHIGAN'S JUDICIAL SYSTEM RECEIVE EXCELLENCE AWARD

Lansing, MI, October 20, 2006 – The Michigan Hall of Justice Learning Center has been honored with a Quest for Excellence award from the Michigan Museums Association (MMA) for its engaging, animated video and companion online game “Kid Justice Conquers Chaos.”

The MMA presents its Quest for Excellence awards each year to recognize exceptional programs, graphic projects and professional activities of Michigan museums. The awards were presented at the MMA Conference, which was held at the Flint Institute of Arts from October 17 - 19.

The video and online game were created with elementary students in mind as a joint project between the Learning Center and Ferris State University's Digital Animation and Game Design Program. The video and game are aligned with the Michigan Curriculum Framework's social studies standards and were developed with input from educators and legal experts.

Animated characters Lady Justice, Kid Justice, and Kid Liberty play starring roles. In the video, the trio introduces the court system to visitors of the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center, located on the first floor of the Michigan Hall of Justice in Lansing. In the online game, the characters pursue further adventures, combating Lady Anarchy and other mischief-makers who have created trouble in the Hall of Justice. Before students can solve the case, they must answer important questions about the court system.

“We are honored to receive this award in the institutional achievement category and appreciate the efforts of Ferris State students and professors, as well as the Michigan State Bar Foundation for funding the project,” said Rachael L. Drenovsky, Learning Center Coordinator, who received the award on behalf of the Learning Center. “Working together in support of students and educators has been a wonderful experience.”

Drenovsky added that, while many of the Learning Center's offerings are tailored for later elementary students, "Everyone enjoys the exhibits. The adult visitors are just as impressed and engaged as the children."

The Hall of Justice Learning Center is a 3,800 square foot interpretive gallery designed to educate the public about the role of the Michigan court system in everyday life. The gallery is filled with activities designed to educate visitors about the history and structure of the Court, including the difference between trial and appellate courts. Visitors also learn about the roles and functions of various participants in a trial.

Walk-in visitors are welcome. Docent-led tours are available for groups of eight or more. For reservations, call (517) 373-7444. The Learning Center is located at the corner of Allegan Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard, north of the Michigan Historical Center.

For more information, visit <http://www.courts.michigan.gov/plc/KidJustice/index.htm>.

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